

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CAPE T 00884 021714Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
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AMEMBASSY LUSAKA PRIORITY
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AMEMBASSY MAPUTO PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 884

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: RH, PORG
SUBJ: RHODESIA: EXECUTIVE COUNCIL LIFTS ZANU AND ZAPU BANS

THE FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A STATEMENT WE ARE INFORMED
WAS ISSUED BY THE SALISBURY EXECUTIVE COUNCIL TODAY, MAY 2,
ANNOUNCING THE LIFTING OF THE BAN ON ZANU AND ZAPU AND THE
ADOPTION OF OTHER MEASURES AIMED AT PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO
RHODESIAN INDEPENDENCE BY THE END OF THE YEAR.

BEGIN TEXT: 1. THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT WAS SIGNED ON 3RD MARCH BY
US, THE FOUR LEADERS, NAMELY CHIEF CHIRAU, BISHOP MUZOREWA, REV
SITHOLE AND MR IAN SMITH. THE SETTLEMENT PROVIDES FOR MAJORITY
RULE BY 31ST DECEMBER 1978 ON THE BASIS OF UNIVERSAL ADULT
SUFFRAGE. PREPARATIONS ARE UNDER WAY TO REGISTER ALL CITIZENS
AGED 18 AND OVER - A POTENTIAL ELECTORATE OF ABOUT THREE
MILLION - AND TO PRODUCE VOTERS ROLLS FOR THE FIRST ELECTION.
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MAJORITY RULE - ONE MAN ONE VOTE - IS WHAT THE PEOPLE HAVE
BEEN PRESSING FOR FOR MANY YEARS. IT WAS THE OBJECTIVE OF THE
FIGHTING WHICH HAS COST SO MANY LIVES. THIS OBJECTIVE HAS NOW
BEEN ACHIEVED AND THE TIME HAS THEREFORE COME TO CALL A HALT IN
THE FIGHTING AND TO RESTORE PEACE TO OUR LAND.

2. IN FURTHERANCE OF THE AGREEMENT WE, THE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

COUNCIL, HAVE ORDERED THE RELEASE OF THE PEOPLE HELD IN DETENTION. ALREADY OVER 700 HAVE BEEN FREED AND THE CASES OF THE REMAINDER - A LITTLE OVER 200 - ARE BEING EXAMINED. THE ONLY PROVISIO WE MAKE IS THAT AFTER THEIR RELEASE THEY SHOULD LIVE PEACEFULLY AND NOT ENGAGE IN UNLAWFUL ACTIVITIES. THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF THOSE RELEASED HAVE INDICATED THEIR SUPPORT FOR THE AGREEMENT THROUGH ONE OR OTHER OF THE PARTIES WHICH WE HEAD.

3. AS AN INDICATION OF OUR INTENTION THAT THERE SHOULD BE FREE POLITICAL ACTIVITY IN THE PERIOD LEADING UP THE THE FIRST ELECTION WE HAVE DECIDED THAT THE BAN ON ALL PROSCRIBED POLITICAL ORGANISATIONS SHOULD BE LIFTED FORTHWITH. THIS INCLUDES ZANU AND ZAPU. FREEDOM OF POLITICAL ACTIVITY PLACES A HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY ON THE VARIOUS PARTIES TO ENSURE THAT POLITICAL ACTIVITY IS PEACEFUL. WE THEREFORE URGE ALL OF OUR FOLLOWERS TO SHOW RESTRAINT IN THEIR CONTACTS WITH MEMBERS OF OTHER PARTIES. OUR ENEMIES ARE PREDICTING THAT OUR INTERNAL AGREEMENT WILL FAIL BECAUSE OF INTER PARTY RIVALRIES WITHIN THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT. WE MUST ALL ENSURE THAT THEY ARE PROVED WRONG. OUR FIRST PRIORITY IS TO GAIN INTERNATIONAL ACCEPTANCE OF OUR AGREEMENT. ELECTIONEERING CAN COME LATER.

4. WE KNOW FROM OUR CONTACTS WITH THEM THAT MOST OF THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN FIGHTING FOR THE PRINCIPLE OF MAJORITY RULE ARE AWARE THAT THE BATTLE HAS BEEN WON. WE SAY TO THEM THAT THE TIME HAS NOW COME TO BRING AN END TO THE FIGHTING. IT IS TIME FOR THEM TO JOIN US IN THE PEACEFUL TRANSITION TO MAJORITY RULE WHICH IS THE BASIS OF OUR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AGREEMENT OF 3RD MARCH. WE GUARANTEE THEIR SAFETY IF THEY COME IN PEACE. THROUGH OUR CONTACTS WITH THEM DETAILED ARRANGEMENTS ARE BEING MADE FOR THEIR RECEPTION AND TO ENABLE THEM TO RETURN TO THEIR HOMES AND REJOIN THEIR FAMILIES IF THEY WISH TO DO SO.

5. BECAUSE THE CAUSE OF THE FIGHTING HAS FALLEN AWAY IT FOLLOWS THAT THOSE WHO REJECT OUR STATEMENT AND CONTINUE FIGHTING HAVE SOME OTHER REASON SUCH AS THE DESIRE FOR PERSONAL POWER ON THE PART OF SOME INDIVIDUAL.

6. WE ARE VERY CONSCIOUS THAT THE MAIN SUFFERERS IN THE FIGHTING ARE INNOCENT CIVILIANS ON BOTH SIDES AND OF ALL RACES. WE URGE MOST EARNESTLY THAT THOSE ON BOTH SIDES WHO ARE DOING THE FIGHTING SHOULD NOW MAKE CERTAIN THAT CIVILIAN TARGETS ARE AVOIDED. IF CIVILIAN CASUALTIES CAN BE SIGNIFICANTLY REDUCED THIS WILL HAVE AN IMMEDIATE AND MARKED EFFECT ON THE WHOLE POLITICAL CLIMATE IN OUR COUNTRY. IT WILL ALSO ASSIST MATERIALLY IN CONVINCING OUR FRIENDS OUTSIDE OF OUR DETERMINATION AND OUR ABILITY TO TAKE OUR COUNTRY PEACEFULLY TO MAJORITY RULE BY 31ST DECEMBER, 1978.

7. WE ARE GIVING OUR CLOSE ATTENTION TO THE QUESTION OF PROTECTED VILLAGES. THE PURPOSE OF THESE WAS TO ENABLE THE SECURITY FORCES TO PROVIDE BETTER PROTECTION AGAINST

ATTACK FOR THE PEOPLE IN THE RURAL AREAS. WE
REALIZE THAT THESE PROTECTED VILLAGES ARE UNPOPULAR AND
THAT THE PEOPLE PREFER TO LIVE FREELY AND WITHOUT
RESTRICTONS IN THEIR OWN AREAS. AS THE FIGHTING
DIES DOWN AND PEACE IS RESTORED THE PROTECTED VILLAGES
WILL BE DISMANTLED. HOWEVER, WE HAVE ALREADY GIVEN
INSTRUCTIONS THAT WHEREVER POSSIBLE THE RESTRICTIONS ON
THE MOVEMENTS OF THE OCCUPANTS SHOULD BE EASED.
8. FINALLY, WE CALL UPON ALL OF OUR PEOPLE OF ALL RACES
TO RALLY BEHIND THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT AND TO SUPPORT
OUR DETERMINED EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A PEACEFUL TRANSFER OF
POWER TO THE MAJORITY BY 31ST DECEMBER 1978. WE
STRESS ONCE AGAIN THAT NOBODY IS BARRED OR EXCLUDED FROM
THE PROCESS. THOSE OUTSIDE THE COUNTRY ARE FREE TO
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RETURN AND PLAY THEIR PART UNDER THE AMNESTY, PROVIDED
ONLY THAT THEY COME IN PEACE. WE, YOUR LEADERS,
DECLARE JOINTLY THAT IT SHALL BE THE WILL OF THE PEOPLE,
EXPRESSED THROUGH THE BALLOT BOX AND NOT BY FORCE OF
ARMS, WHICH WILL DETERMINE WHO SHALL LEAD THE COUNTRY
AFTER INDEPENDENCE. END TEXT.
NELSON

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